



OSHAWA
ONTARIO, CANADA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF OSHAWA

Statement from Mayor Dan Carter in Recognition of Transgender Awareness Week and Transgender Day of Remembrance 2023

Today marks the beginning of Transgender Awareness Week. From November 13 to 19, we come together as a community to celebrate the resilience, strength and achievements of Two-Spirit, trans, non-binary and all gender-expansive individuals. Transgender Awareness Week is also an opportunity to foster greater understanding of the diversity of trans identities and experiences by amplifying trans voices and sharing their stories.

As we celebrate the progress made in recent years, we must also acknowledge the many harms still experienced by trans people, including discrimination, bias and violence. November 20, Transgender Day of Remembrance, is a day devoted to the memory of those lives that have been tragically lost in acts of transphobic violence. On this day, vigils are held in communities around the world to read the names of those who have been killed to honour their memory. Each name represents a life filled with promise and potential, extinguished far too soon.

As we reflect on the significance of these days, it is crucial to reaffirm our commitment to promoting understanding, respect and equality for Two-Spirit, transgender, non-binary and all gender-expansive individuals. We at the City of Oshawa believe that every person deserves to live a life free from discrimination, violence and bias, regardless of their gender identity or expression. We remain committed to educating ourselves and others, reducing barriers, challenging transphobia and actively supporting the rights and well-being of transgender people.

Today and every day, let us continue to learn, advocate and work towards a more inclusive and equitable community where everyone is valued, respected and celebrated for who they are. By doing so, we honour the memories of those we have lost and uplift the voices of those who continue to inspire us with their strength and resilience.

Sincerely,

Mayor Dan Carter
City of Oshawa